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Page 11, fifth paragraph starting at line 24:

JAN 24 2003

For TAT:

B3 5'-TTTTCTAGAACCATGGAGCCAGTAGATCCT-3' (SEQ ID NO:7) TECH CENTER 1600/2900

5'-TTTTCTCGAGCTAATCGAACGGATCTGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:8)

Page 12, fourth paragraph starting at line 19:

Phase 1:

B4 The HIV-1 NEF (SEQ ID NO:1) gene was obtained from a plasmid pcNEF vector, which contained the LAI isolate NEF gene inserted into a pcTAT vector lacking the TAT gene. The NEF gene used for further cloning was achieved as a 1.3 kb fragment by Spe I and Hind III digestion from pcNEF. To eliminate the reformation of the Hind III site on ligation, after Hind III digestion the fragment was treated with Klenow enzyme and a mix of dATP, dCTP, dGTP nucleotides after which the Spe I digestion was performed. The fragments obtained were separated by electrophoresis on a 1% agarose gel alongside standard size markers. Bands of correct size were cut out and the DNA recovered using the Sephaglas Bandprep Kit (Pharmacia Biotech), following the manufacturer's protocol.

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly enter the following amended claims.

1. (Amended) A self-replicating recombinant vector comprising bovine papilloma virus nucleotide sequences consisting essentially of

B6 cont'd

- (i) a bovine papilloma E1 gene and E2 gene,
- (ii) a minimal origin of replication of a bovine papilloma virus,
- (iii) a minichromosomal maintenance element of a bovine papilloma virus, and a heterologous nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of a nucleotide sequence encoding the HIV regulatory protein NEF, a nucleotide sequence encoding the HIV regulatory protein REV, a nucleotide sequence encoding the HIV regulatory protein TAT, and a nucleotide sequence encoding a fragment thereof capable of eliciting an immunological response in a recipient.